2. (**Twice Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein said protein comprises an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

3. (**Twice Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

4. (**Twice Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises an amino acid sequence at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

5. (**Twice Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

6. (**Twice Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said fragment induces apoptosis.

10. (**Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions, including a wash step of 0.2X SSC at 65 °C, to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

11. (**Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2 comprising amino acid residues 168-240 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said fragment induces apoptosis.

12. (**Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a protein comprising amino acid residues 168-240 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

13. (**Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a protein consisting essentially of amino acid residues 168-240 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

The amended claims are re-stated below to reflect changes with respect to the last filing.

1. (**Twice Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a ~~purified~~ protein comprising an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

2. (**Twice Amended**) The method ~~purified protein~~ of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

3. (**Twice Amended**) The method ~~purified protein~~ of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

4. (**Twice Amended**) The method ~~purified protein~~ of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises an amino acid sequence at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

5. (**Twice Amended**) The method ~~purified protein~~ of claim 1, wherein said protein ~~has~~ comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.

6. (**Twice Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein expression of said fragment ~~that~~ induces apoptosis.

10. (**Amended**) A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, comprising expressing in said cell an effective amount of a ~~purified~~ protein comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions, including a wash step of 0.2X SSC at 65 °C, to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein expression of said protein induces apoptosis.